allotted to Mr. Sinclair, a surgeon in the army or navy, who, on the same day, was killed by being thrown from a gig; in the neighbourhood of Chatham, if I recollect right. His representatives presented it to the company who possess the Observatory in Dumfries; they erected to receive it an octagon temple, from a design by Mr. Gregan, of Manchester, and there it remains.

Dominie Sampson and his companion are deposited, I believe, in the grounds of Carlton House, Bogrue, near Kirkcudbright.

The sculpture in Burns's mausoleum (mentioned at page 413, last year) is a very poor affair by Turnerelli. Burns at the plough, and the Genius of Scotland hovering in the air, about to throw her mantle over him, in allusion to a passage in one of his letters. The incompleteness of the edifice, now proposed to be remedied, consists simply in the absence of four sarcophagi upon the entablature, one at each angle, over the coupled columns that project upon the diagonal of the square. That they will be any improvement is very questionable. By-the-bye, if you, or any of your readers, should have an hour to spare in going north, the churchyard in which this mausoleum stands is worth looking at,—a thing by itself, without a rival in its way; of monuments, from 1632 downwards, *full*, and many not without interest. W. R. C.

METROPOLITAN COMMISSION OF SEWERS.

At the last general court, Lord Ebrington stated, in reference to the sewer-accident at Scotland-yard, that the commissioners had not thought it their duty to give a copy of Mr. Forster's report, as it might affect the character of individuals, and possibly give rise to proceedings in a court of law.

On the recommendation of the committee that public conveniences be constructed in the Edgeware-road, in the New-road (opposite Trinity Church), and at St. John's Wood, being brought up, his lordship said the absence of public conveniences had been frequently impressed upon the attention of the commissioners by the commissioners of police, but that the greatest difficulty was experienced in the selection of eligible sites for the purpose, for no sooner was one proposed than the inhabitants raised the greatest objections to it. He thought, however, there was a very improper prejudice against them, as he believed the absence of them to be injurious to public health, and that a great deal of unreasonable clamour had been raised upon the subject, and the same difficulty had been experienced in the city of London. The recommendation was agreed to.

A report was presented by the secretary from Mr. Grant, the surveyor, sanctioned by Mr. Forster, the engineer, on the drainage of Peckham and its neighbourhood, the report stating that upwards of 400 square acres would be benefited by the proposed drainage. To meet the requirements of the district, he proposed that 10,935 feet of pipe sewers should be laid down in Rye-lane, Peckham, and its neighbourhood. It was proposed that the expense of the proposed works should be contributed by two-thirds of the district-rate and one-third by a special rate on the owners of the property. The estimated expense of the entire works was 1,700*l*. The committee recommended its adoption. Sir Henry de la Beche said it should be borne in mind that this outlay of 1,700*l*. was part and parcel of their plan for the drainage of the southern side of the Thames. The recommendation was then agreed to and ordered to be carried into effect; but the proportions of the expense were deferred for further consideration. In furtherance of the drainage of the southern side of the Thames, a report was presented from Mr. Cresy, recommending that 1,220 feet of 12-inch, and 9,310 feet of 9-inch pipe sewers be laid down in Lower Marsh, Lambeth, and neighbourhood, at an expense of 1,080*l*.; half of the same to be defrayed by the district, and half by a special rate on the owners of the property. The report was received, and the recommendations therein contained agreed to.

In reference to the Chancery suit, at the instance of Mr. Raine, for trespass in filling up open ditches at Bermondsey during the prevalence of cholera, it was ordered that the solicitors defend the action on the part of the commission.

Mr. Peto announced that the stoppage of Parliament-street for sewer works was nearly at an end, as the street was about to be placed in the hands of the Regent-street Commissioners for macadamisation. Sir John Burgoyne, in allusion to some remark about the name of the sewer through Victoria-street, said that no name had been given to the sewer at all.

Books.

Thirty Designs adapted for Civil Architecture. By J. B. Waring, M.I.B.A. London, 1850. 70, St. Martin's-lane.

These designs include cornices, string-courses, doors, and windows, and display both novelty and good taste, though the strait-laced will call them "mixed." Some of the arch-bands are adapted for moulded brick. As suggestions they will be found valuable, but in applying them skill would, of course, be necessary, to make the other parts conform and produce a sequence. They are lithographed, partly by the designer and partly by Mr. Macquoid, his coadjutor in the work on Spanish Architecture, to which we lately called attention.

The Dream Chintz. By the author of "A Trap to Catch a Sunbeam," &c.; with Illustrations by James Godwin. Wright, Pall-mall, 1851.

The notion of a "Dream Chintz,"—a chintz designed from the recollections of a dream,—is a pretty one, whether it be true or not that a chintz so called some years ago did so originate. We would not advise designers to sit with folded hands till they *dream* a pattern, but we do advise them to be ever ready to take advantage of a suggestion, whether it be struck out while digging for it, or come of itself when the judgment be laid asleep with the body, and the imagination roams, a thousand miles a minute, wild and unrestrained. Notwithstanding this exordium, and the incident in question, the pretty book before us, and to which the latter gives a name, does not belong to industrial art, but to the affections and the conduct. It inculcates that to try and fail is better than not to try at all; combats despondency, and teaches that none who do their duty in the position in which they are placed live uselessly. Like preceding stories by the same writer (an amiable and gifted girl), it is the utterance of a pure heart and kindly spirit, and contains no sentiment which the author will wish to blot, when time and experience have matured her judgment and strengthened her powers for higher flights.

The illustrations by James Godwin, engraved chiefly by Dalziel and Mason Jackson, give evidence of ability, which we believe, as well as hope, will enable the artist, by perseverance and study, to take a good place in his profession.

The Builder's Price Book for 1851. By W. Laxton, Architect. London: Weale; Simpkin and Marshall.

This is the 28th edition, and has been corrected up to the present time. It is necessary parties should bear in mind that the prices allowed in this book are for materials and work *of the best description*.

We give a specimen of the memoranda with which the book commences:—

"To ascertain the value of timber per foot cube, when the prime cost is known. *Rule*—Add to the price at the yard 1*l*. per load, for sawing and carting, then multiply the number of pounds by 6½d. which will give the price per foot cube, including 20 per cent. profit and waste.

Example.—If the prime cost at the yard be 7*l*. add 1*l*. for sawing and carting, which will make 8*l*.; this multiplied by 6½d. will give 4*s*. 4*d*. per foot cube. If the prime cost have any odd shillings, take the proportion of 6½d. for the same:—thus, if it be 5*s*. divide 6½d. by 4, which will give 1½d. and a fraction.

To ascertain the price of deals, when the price per C. is known. *Rule*—Multiply the number of pounds by 2d. or double it, which will give the number of pence each deal is worth.

Example.—If deals be 40*l*. it will be 40 × 2=80*d*. or 6*s*. 8*d*. per deal; and *vice versâ*, if the price per deal be known, to ascertain the value per C. *Rule*—Reduce the value of the deal into pence, and divide by 2, will give the value in pounds, per C.

Example.—If the price of a deal be 6*s*. 9*d*. or 81*d*. it will be 81 ÷ 2=40½, or 40*l*. 10*s*.

To ascertain the price *per foot saper.* for deal, to include 20 per cent. profit, when the prime cost per C. delivered is given. *Rule*—Take 1*d*. for every 10*l*. or ½*d*. for 5*l*.; suppose deals be 35*l*. per C. inch deal will be 3½*d*. per foot; and if 40*l*., 4*d*. per foot—if for measured work add ¼ for waste; and for any other thickness add or deduct 1*d*. per foot for every ¼ of an inch variation up to 1¼ inch, and above 1¼ inch ½*d*. for every ¼ of an inch variation. Thus if inch deal be 2*d*., ¾ inch will be 2*d*., 1 inch, 3*d*.; 1¼ inch, 3*d*.; 1½ inch, 6*d*.; 2 inch, 7½*d*.; 2½ inch, 9*d*.; and 3 inch, 10½*d*."

As, according to some teachers, architects make no calculations, and know nothing of thrusts and weights, even the following *modicum* of information may be useful!

Table showing the quantity of Stone and Marble equal to a ton weight:—

13 ft. cube of vein marble		Inches.	
13½	statuary	70 ft. sup.	2½ York paving
13½	granite	56	3 ditto
14	Purbeck	68	2½ Purbeck do.
14½	Yorkshire	56	3 ditto
14½	Craigleith	54	3 granite
15	Portland	27	6 ditto
15	Derby	23	7 ditto curb.
15	Bath		

The Family Friend. Vol. III. Houlston and Stoneman, Paternoster-row.

The praise we gave to the second volume of this miscellany is fully due to the third also. It is full of useful information and pleasant reading.

Who's Who, in 1851. London: Bailey, Brothers.

This is a pocket directory, of persons in positions of honour,—peers, members of the House of Commons, baronets, admirals, &c.

THE BUILDERS.

All the architects of fate,
Working in these walls of time;
Some with massive deeds and great,
Some with ornaments or rhyme.

Nothing useless is, or low;
Each thing in its place is best;
And what seems but idle show,
Strengthens and supports the rest.

For the structure that we raise,
Time is with materials fill'd;
Our to-days and yesterdays
Are the blocks with which we build.

Truly shape and fashion these;
Leave no yawning gaps between;
Think not, because no man sees,
Such things will remain unseen.

In the olden days of art,
Builders wrought with greatest care
Each minute and unseen part;
For the gods are everywhere.

Let us do our work as well,
Both the unseen and the seen;
Make the house where gods may dwell
Beautiful, entire, and clean.

Else our lives are incomplete,
Standing in these walls of time;
Broken stairways, where the feet
Stumble as they seek to climb.

Build to-day, then, strong and sure
With a firm and ample base;
And ascending and secure
Shall to-morrow find its place.

Thus alone can we attain
To those turrets, where the eye
Sees the world as one vast plain,
And one boundless reach of sky.

H. W. Longfellow.

The Sanitary Question in the Theatre.—In a bustling, novel, and amusing burlesque at the Adelphi Theatre, in the Strand, by Mr. Albert Smith, called *La Tarantula*, full of pretty effects and Wrighto-Bedfordian fun, the struggle is made to lie between the demons of dirt and the bright spirits of cleanliness,—a sign of the times not without value.

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